

National Park Service Northeast Region



Virginia Parks and Partnerships



**Virginia Motto:
Thus Always to Tyrants**

**National Register Properties
as of December 2001: 2056**

**National Historic Landmarks
(2002): 116**

**Land and Water Conservation
Funding (2002): \$3,154,938**

**Urban Park and Recreation
Recovery Projects (2001): 3**

RTCA Projects (2003): 12

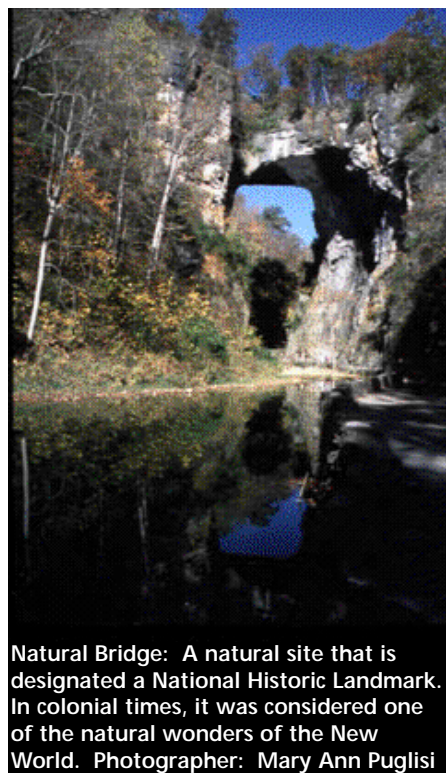
**Save America's Treasures
Grants through NPS: 3**

**National Park Service
Programs in the
Northeast Region**

**Marie Rust
Regional Director**

PARTNERSHIPS IN VIRGINIA

The National Park Service and Virginians are working together to conserve natural resources, create recreational opportunities and preserve Virginia's rich heritage. In partnership, we have conserved a network of natural spaces: national parks and recreation areas, commonwealth parks and lands, and natural landmarks. We have helped preserve Virginia heritage with individual national historic landmarks, national register designations, monuments conservation, and a national heritage area. The cornerstone of our work is a cooperative planning process that develops public and private partnerships to create outdoor recreational opportunities within an ethic of conservation. We understand how essential public involvement is to making our partnership work for all Virginians and integrate it into everything we do.



Natural Bridge: A natural site that is designated a National Historic Landmark. In colonial times, it was considered one of the natural wonders of the New World. Photographer: Mary Ann Puglisi

CREATING RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND (L&WCF)

In February 2002, Virginia finalized its Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation plan. A plan for the 21st Century, the Virginia Outdoor Plan focuses on livable communities, sustainable development, quality of life, and a conservation ethic in addition to addressing traditional recreational needs. While a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required for Land and Water Conservation Fund participation, the Virginia plan recognizes the importance of the National Park Service as partner and not just grantor. The plan includes recommendations to the National Park Service developed as part of the public participation planning process for suggested actions within the 300,000 acres of National Park units in Virginia and the surrounding communities.

Beyond planning, the L&WCF has contributed \$68 million to parks and open space in Virginia since 1966. The funds have been used for commonwealth parks as well as those managed by municipal and county governments. Recently, projects have ranged from a boat ramp access and parking improvements in Occoneechee State Park to something for everyone in Fauquier County: baseball, softball, football, and soccer fields, picnic facilities, a playground, and trails.

RIVERS, TRAILS & CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE (RTCA) IN VIRGINIA

The National Park Service has twelve Rivers and Trails projects underway in Virginia in 2003, along with numerous partnership consultations. Ten of the projects (see map) are coordinated out of the Northeast Region of NPS. Two, the Pine Mountain Trail and the Southern Appalachian Regional Greenway near the Tennessee and Kentucky borders, are being coordinated out of the Southeast Region, with the bulk of work lying in those states.

For more information on the State side L&WCF in Virginia contact:

John R. Davy, Division Director,
Planning and Recreation
Resources, VA DCR
804-786-1119

Roy Cortez, NPS Planner
215-597-5134



1. Chesapeake Bay Watershed Dialogue
2. Fluvanna County Open Space Protection Strategy
3. Region 2000 Greenway and Blueway Concept Plan
4. Economic Impact Study of Trails in Virginia
5. Algonquin Trace Water Trail (York River)
6. Northern Neck Conservation Initiatives
7. Upper New Wild and Scenic River Study
8. Roanoke Valley/Blue Ridge Parkway Trail Assessment
9. Franklin County Visioning
10. Dinwiddie County Trails Outreach

Several of the projects are focused on greenway and trail planning, including water trail development (blueways). Assistance is being provided to Roanoke trail planners and to Region 2000 in its greenway and blueway master plan. Dinwiddie County continues to receive our assistance for trail planning and for community involvement in relation to Petersburg National Battlefield.

Economic impacts of trails in the commonwealth are being assessed in partnership with the Virginia Trails Association. Open space protection and preserving rural character are the focus of the continuing assistance to Fluvanna County. Visioning assistance has been requested by Franklin County, near Booker T. Washington National Monument.

A new effort is underway, in cooperation with the Chesapeake Bay Program of the EPA, to begin widespread grassroots watershed planning and education. Numerous sub-watersheds will be invited to participate. State agencies will be a major part in this effort as well. Conservation and heritage preservation planning is the focus of our partners on the Northern Neck.

URBAN PARK AND RECREATION RECOVERY (UPARR) PROGRAM

Three Virginia cities were awarded funding in the 2001 UPARR competitive grant round. The City of Charlottesville will use its \$500,000 to rehabilitate and reopen its 68 year old Downtown Recreation Center closed since 2000 for health and safety violations. The City of Hampton will use its \$210,000 award to reopen the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Hampton Roads closed

For general information on RTCA, visit:

www.ncrc.nps.gov/programs/rtca

Contacts for the following projects in Virginia are keyed to the map above:

Projects #1, 2, 5 & 6:

Wink Hastings
410-267-5787
Wink_Hastings@nps.gov

Project #3, 4, 8 & 9:

Ursula Lemanski
304-535-4018
Ursula_Lemanski@nps.gov

Project #7

David Lange
215-597-6477
David_A_Lange@nps.gov

Project #10:

Helen Mahan
215-597-6483
Helen_Mahan@nps.gov



The Dinwiddie County Battlefield Trail links 8 Civil War Battlefields making use of an abandoned rail corridor as part of the 35 mile trail.

For more information on the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program and projects in Virginia, contact Roy Cortez at:
215-597-5134
roy_cortez@nps.gov

For more information on the UPARR programs across the nation go to:
www.nps.gov/uparr

since 1996. Both of these facilities can only reopen when made safe. The UPARR grant to the City of Richmond of \$194,950 will rehabilitate its Thomas B. Smith Recreation Center, a 30 year old building at risk of closure due to health and safety issues. It is the only indoor facility located in the only recreation area in this distressed neighborhood.

Each of these projects represent what the UPARR program is all about. The program is specifically targeted to the needs of urban populations located in densely developed areas with limited available public open space. As is typical nationwide, these Virginia cities have struggled to keep pace with the growing demands for recreational opportunities and have watched their few facilities deteriorate alarmingly. Through this federal partnership citizens of these cities will once more have viable recreation centers in these urban neighborhoods.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN VIRGINIA'S NATIONAL PARKS

SCIENCE IN THE PARKS

Three new science projects are underway in Shenandoah National Park. One project will apply herbicide to several invasive species; in a second, the herbicide Garlon-4 will be used to control oriental bittersweet that is engulfing trees, shrubs, and forbs on the forest edge along Skyline Drive. The third will study acidification of Paine Run identified as one of the most endangered rivers in the county. These join two ongoing projects that are progressing in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (VDCR). With VDCR, the National Park Service is creating vegetation maps of seven Virginia parks: Appomattox Court House NHP, Booker T. Washington NM, Colonial NHP, Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania NMP, George Washington Birthplace NM, Richmond NBP, and Petersburg NB. Sample plots will be intensively studied to identify types of vegetation and the extent of their coverage. A parallel project with VDCR and the USGS Leetown Science Center is being undertaken at Shenandoah NP that includes analysis of the vegetation communities in relation to ecological units defined by terrain and landscape structure.



Oriental bittersweet, pictured here, can be extraordinarily destructive. Removal efforts are underway along Skyline Drive.

For more about the invasive species projects, contact James Akerson at:
540-999-3496
James_Akerson@nps.gov

For information about the acidification study, contact Christi Gordon at:
540-999-3499
Christi_Gordon@nps.gov

For information about the vegetation mapping in seven Virginia parks contact Brian Eick at:
434-352-8987.

For information on vegetation and fuels mapping at Shenandoah NP contact Wendy Cass at:
540-999-3432.

For information on the Energy Audit Program contact James J. Winebrake at:
540-568-3202

For more on Science projects go to:
www.nps.gov/phso/science

The National Park Service continues to work closely with Virginia colleges and universities. A project with huge potential impacts is the Energy Partnership undertaking with James Madison University. Seven Virginia National Park units will be audited followed by recommendations from the Energy Audit Team to reduce energy usage and water consumption while optimizing water quality and avoiding power quality problems. Based on this work a plan for extending the process to all 375 National Park units will be developed.

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

The National Park Service practices integrated pest management, a process

that controls pests through understanding pest biology and applying control methods that are most effective and least toxic. Two extensive projects are currently underway in Virginia. Pennsylvania State University and George Washington Birthplace NM are working together to develop an integrated pest management plan that coordinates activities across all the park operating units and programs. Shenandoah NP is home to a new Invasive Plant Management Team that will serve all Commonwealth of Virginia National Park units. This is an large undertaking funded in part through the Natural Resource Challenge.

AIR QUALITY

The National Park Service is very active in the effort to protect air quality in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Shenandoah National Park is a Class I park



Shenandoah National Park: It often appears mystical in the clouds, but too often the clouds contain worrisome levels of air pollutants.

under the Clean Air Act which affords it special protection to protect and enhance air quality conditions in and around the park. There are several air quality monitoring sites located in the park that collect data to help determine trends and current concentrations of air pollutants. Some of the air quality data that is collected includes meteorological parameters, ozone, wet and dry deposition, and visibility. Shenandoah National Park has been faced with increasing levels of air pollutants and their effects and has worked consistently with the Commonwealth to ensure that park air resources are protected.

PRESERVATION IN THE PARKS

The **Cultural Landscape Program** provides technical assistance in preserving park cultural landscapes. Part of this assistance is through the Cultural Landscapes Inventory, an evaluated inventory of baseline information for all culturally and historically significant landscapes within the National Park system. The CLI is either underway or has been completed at Appomattox Court House, Assateague Island, Booker T. Washington, Colonial, George Washington Birthplace, Richmond, and Shenandoah. Each completed inventory provides a brief landscape history, an existing conditions basemap, photographs, and a description of the historic landscape's character-defining features. Cultural Landscape Reports (CLR) are underway for City Point and the Crater at Petersburg National Battlefield, Malvern Hill at Richmond N.B., and Booker T. Washington N.M. These reports provide the primary guidance for the landscape's long term management.

Parks are provided technical assistance for completing detailed research studies through the **Park History Program**. At Booker T. Washington, a historic resource study is underway on the Booker T. Washington School focusing on segregated education in Virginia. **National Register documentation** is being completed for Skyline Drive Historic District at Shenandoah NP and a historic resource study and National Register docu-

For more about Integrated Pest Management in Virginia National Park units contact Wayne Millington at:

814-863-8352 or

Wayne_Millington@nps.gov

For guidance on Integrated Pest Management in the Northeast Region and useful information about specific practices, visit:

www.nps.gov/phso/ipm

For more on the air quality at Shenandoah NP, contact Christi Gordon at:

540-999-3499 or

Christi_Gordon@nps.gov

For information on air quality issues in the Northeast Region, contact Holly Salazer, our new Regional Air Resources Coordinator for the Region, at:

215-597-4623 or

Holly_Salazer@nps.gov

For more information on the Cultural Landscape Program, contact Shaun Eyring at:

215-597- 8850 or

Shaun_Eyring@nps.gov

For more about the Park History Program, contact Cliff Tobias at:

215-597-9970 or

Cliff_Tobias@nps.gov

For more about the Park Archeology Program, contact Allen Cooper at:

215-597-1099 or

Allen_Cooper@nps.gov

mentation is underway at Appomattox Courthouse.

The **Archeological Sites Management Information System (ASMIS) program** collects and manages baseline data on the location, significance, and condition of all archeological resources in the Region. Projects to amass complete database records in Virginia parks are underway at Appomattox Courthouse, Assateague Island, Booker T. Washington, Richmond, and Shenandoah. **Archeological Overview and Assessments and Identification Studies** are also underway for all but Shenandoah.

For more information on Park Planning, contact Terry Moore at:

215-597-6412
Terrence_Moore@nps.gov



The Great Dismal Swamp has ecological and historic significance. Pictured, Lake Drummond (US Fish & Wildlife Service).

For more information about National Natural Landmarks, contact Michele Batcheller at:

814-863-9414
Michele_Batcheller@nps.gov

For more about the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District, contact the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation at:

888-689-4545
www.valleybattlefields.org

For information about National Heritage Areas, contact Peter Samuel at:

215-597-1848
Peter_Samuel@nps.gov

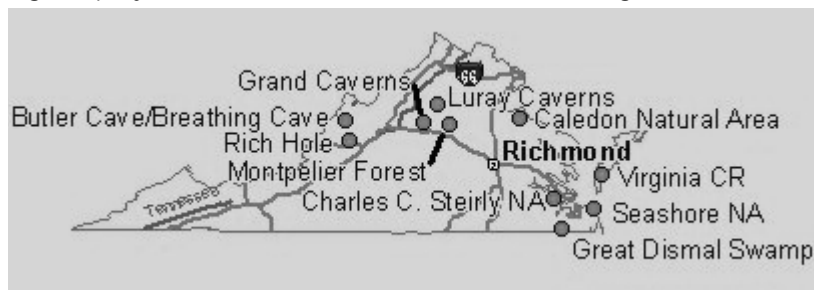
PLANNING IN VIRGINIA PARKS

The National Park Service is continuing the General Management Planning (GMP) scoping for Shenandoah National Park and collecting available information preliminary to launching the GMP process for George Washington Birthplace National Monument. The Appomattox Courthouse NHP General Management Plan is well underway. This planning effort is addressing heritage tourism, resource management, and visitor's services needs. The Special Resource Study of Ferry Farm, George Washington's boyhood home, is completed and ready to print in final. The Ferry Farm project has been a collaborative effort between Fredricksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial NHP and the Regional staff in Philadelphia with assistance from consultants and the George Washington's Fredricksburg Foundation. The GMP for the Green Spring site at Colonial NHP is being finalized and has included the active participation of the park's friends group, local citizens, and county and state agencies.

PRESERVING VIRGINIA'S RICH HERITAGE

VIRGINIA'S NATIONAL NATURAL LANDMARKS

This program supports voluntary preservation of sites that illustrate the geological and ecological history of the United States. All new designations must have owner permission. Through this program, NPS staff find technical specialists to advise landowners on how to care for their special sites. While funding for projects is not the norm, in some cases, regional coordinators



have been successful in helping NNL owners obtain small grants. There are 10 NNLs in Virginia. Five of these were assisted by the National Park Service in 2002. Great Dismal Swamp is at particular risk of degradation because of traffic impacts. The Commonwealth has worked to mitigate these impacts. For instance, as the two-lane highway is expanded to four lanes, safe passages are being created to allow wild life to cross the highway unharmed.

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS (NHL)

Virginia is home to 116 of the nearly 2300 National Historic Landmarks designated nationwide. NPS works closely with Virginia Landmark stewards by monitoring NHL conditions, offering technical and funding assistance, and working on the biennial report to Congress on threatened NHLs. NPS is cur-



Two views of Moton High School, the subject of a reuse plan in 2002. Left to right, the front entrance and south elevation.

rently working on designations for the themes of Underground Railroad history and Earliest Americans archeology. In 2002, the NHL Program is completing a reuse plan for the 1939 Robert Russa Moton High School in Farmville. It was there in 1951 that a student strike protesting unequal educational facilities for African-Americans led to a lawsuit that became

part of the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court Case. A private not-for-profit corporation was established to redevelop the property as a center for the study of civil rights in education.

AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM (ABPP)

ABPP fosters opportunities for stewardship of historic battlefields through grants and technical assistance that support public and private partners in identifying, evaluating and planning for preservation. Thirteen grants in thirteen states were awarded in the 2002 grant round. Shenandoah County, VA was awarded \$50,000 to prepare preservation plans for Fisher's Hill and Tom's Brook Civil War battlefields. This was the largest award granted this year and constitutes over 15% of the program's 2002 grant funds.

MONUMENT RESEARCH & PRESERVATION PROGRAM

The NPS provides assistance in the care and interpretation of public sculpture and monuments. NPS staff is providing monument preservation advice to the City of Charlottesville. In addition, NPS helped design a new monument to Booker T. Washington in Hardy, Virginia.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY/HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD/HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPE SURVEY (HABS/HAER/HALS)

HABS/HAER/HALS is an integral component of the federal government's commitment to historic preservation. Through this program, NPS ensures that a uniform and thorough record (including measured drawings, written histories and large-format photographs) is made of all nationally significant resources that are affected by federal undertakings. These records are then stored in the Library of Congress where they contribute to the memory of our national history. Recently, various structures in the Washington National and Dulles International Airport complexes underwent this process.

HISTORIC SURPLUS PROPERTY

This program allows state, county and local governments to obtain surplus federal properties at no cost if the property is listed in, or eligible for listing

For more information about National Historic Landmarks, contact Bill Bolger at:

215-597-1649
Bill_Bolger@nps.gov

Just for fun, check out the Imaging Our National Heritage Photo Contest Winners at:

www.nps.gov/phso/nhlphoto

Within the state government, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) works to preserve valuable resources and interacts with NPS on many projects. Virginia's SHPO is:

Kathleen Kilpatrick
Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23221
804-367-2323
kkilpatrick@dhr.state.va.us

For more about the American Battlefield Protection program, contact Kathy Schlegel at:

215-597-6486
Kathy_Schlegel@nps.gov

Or visit the ABPP's website at:

www2.cr.nps.gov/abpp



The new Booker T. Washington monument in Hardy, VA

For more information about the Monuments Program, contact Dennis Montagna at:

215-597-5824
Dennis_Montagna@nps.gov

For more information about the HABS/HAER/HALS program, contact Catherine Turton at:

215-597-1726
Catherine_Turton@nps.gov

For more information about the Historic Surplus Property Program, visit:

www2.cr.nps.gov/tps/hspp_p.htm

For National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act, visit:

www.cr.nps.gov/maritime/nhlpa/nhlpa.htm

Or, for either program, contact Lisa McCann at:

215-597-0651

Lisa_McCann@nps.gov

For more information about Save America's Treasures, including application information, visit:

<http://www2.cr.nps.gov/treasures/>

For information about Challenge Cost Share Program and Save America's Treasures, contact Bonnie Halda at:

215-597-5028,

Bonnie_Halda@nps.gov

For more information, visit:

www.nps.gov/phso

Or contact:

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*Produced by Kathleen Karhnak
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All photos NPS unless noted.

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in, the National Register of Historic Places. Historic properties transferred by General Services Administration (GSA) under this program may be used for public facilities, such as museums and government offices. Properties can also be leased to not-for-profit organizations and to developers who may be eligible to take advantage of federal preservation tax incentives for historic buildings. NPS assists the GSA with the property transfer and plays an important role in ensuring the building is properly rehabilitated and maintained. Successful transfers in Virginia include the New Point Comfort Lighthouse.

NATIONAL HISTORIC LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION ACT

This new Act allows underutilized historic lighthouses and stations to be put to creative uses. General Services Administration (GSA) transfers these properties at no cost to federal agencies, state and local governments, nonprofit corporations and community development organizations for park and recreation, cultural and historic, and educational uses. NPS reviews all applications, assists the GSA with the property transfer, and plays an important role in ensuring the building is properly rehabilitated and maintained. The first transfers under this Act occurred in June 2002. In Virginia, the Newport News Middle Light will be transferred in 2003.



Newport News Middle Light, a lighthouse available for transfer in 2003.

SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES & CHALLENGE COST SHARE PROGRAM

NPS provides 50-50 matching grants to partner groups through these two programs. Save America's Treasures funds projects that preserve and conserve nationally significant historic artifacts, structures and sites. Challenge Cost Share Program provides funding for preserving natural, recreational and cultural resources. Projects may be inside or outside park boundaries.

One recent project involves Dodona Manor, which is also the George C. Marshall International Center, a non-profit organization devoted to preserving and fostering the legacy of George C. Marshall and the principles of the Marshall Plan.

MORE PARTNERSHIPS IN VIRGINIA

You've read highlights about National Park Service activity in Virginia. It is not a complete or detailed list. For example, NPS is also working with the Commonwealth and its communities and organizations on the East Coast Greenway, Northern Neck Heritage, the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network, the Potomac Heritage Trail and other conservation and recreation initiatives.

Please contact us if you would like more information about these projects or contact Marie Rust, Director of the Northeast Region if you would like to suggest or explore ideas for future partnership initiatives.